

Summary

Contents

CONTENTS



Regional Statistics Matters (Updated - Dec 2013)

Includes: Information about what the ABS is currently doing to improve the availability of regional data.



Regional Statistics Schedule (Updated - Dec 2013)

Includes: Details about data and analytical **article releases** and **attendance at events**.



Focus On: Includes feature articles in this issue.

Wage and Salary Earners, Time Series (New - Dec 2013)

Previous Feature Articles



Understanding ABS Geography

Includes: Information about **Australian Statistical Geography Standard** (ASGS).



National Regional Profile Update (Updated - May 2013)

Includes: Information about the latest release of the **regional profiles**.



Regional Population Estimates (Updated - Dec 2013)

Includes: Information about **Estimated Resident Population** and **Regional Internal Migration Estimates**.



Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments (Updated - Dec 2013)

Includes: Information about the **Agriculture Census** and other collections.



Other News (Updated - Dec 2013)

Includes: Information about the developments in other **regional data** initiatives and more.



Links and Contacts (Updated - Oct 2013)

Includes: Information about other **regional products and services** and how to contact the **Rural & Regional Statistics National Centre**.

Regional Statistics Matters



REGIONAL STATISTICS MATTERS

Welcome to the final update of the 2013 edition of the What's New in Regional Statistics newsletter. Below is a brief stock take of the regional statistics news and information we have relayed so far this year, as well as an overview of recent news, and what's coming up in the back half of the year.

What's happened so far in 2013?

For each of these activities, you will find a news item listed in the table of contents:

- New estimates of the sources and amount of personal income people received for 2010-11 were released in Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-6 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) on 29 October 2013.

- The Perspectives on Regional Australia: Non-school Qualifications in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.011) was released on 21 October 2013. This article is one of a series which looks at aspects of human capital - the knowledge and skills with which people contribute to society and the economy - in regional labour markets.
- On 3 October 2013 the ABS Rural, Environment and Agriculture Statistics Branch (REASB) published the final release from the 2011-12 annual cycle – the Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4610.0.55.008) which provides information about the value of production that has benefited from the assistance of irrigation. Data are presented at state and Natural Resource Management (NRM) levels, as well as for the Murray-Darling Basin.
- The information paper Census of Population and Housing: Submissions Report, 2016 (cat. no. 2007.0.55.001) was released on 26 September 2013. The report summarises the key themes emerging from the public submissions received by the ABS on the proposed content and procedures for the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.
- On 26 September 2013 ABS released Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Australia, Jun 2013 (cat. no. 8635.0.55.002) which presents Tourism Region data collected from accommodation businesses in the June quarter 2013 Survey of Tourist Accommodation (STA). Data by star grade was released for Tourism Regions and Statistical Area Level 2 geographies in each state publication (cat. nos. 8635.1.55.001 to 8635.8.55.001).
- The ABS REASB published a series of releases at Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4). All the publications present estimates from the 2011-12 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). The 'Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments' page includes links to the publications.
- Perspectives on Regional Australia: Comparing Census Night and Usual Resident Populations in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.009), released on 16 September 2013, provides an interesting picture about where people recorded they usually live and where they are on Census Night.
- Revised Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data for June 2012 were released on 30 August 2013 in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0). Age and sex breakdowns of these estimates were also released on the same day in Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3235.0). This release includes a 20 year revision to regional ERP and follows from the 20 year revisions to national and state/territory ERP, released in Australian Demographic Statistics, Dec 2012 (cat. no. 3101.0) on 20 June 2013.
- Final estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, non-Indigenous and total populations of Australia at 30 June 2011, based on the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, for various geographies were released on 30 August 2013 in Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, June 2011 (cat. no. 3238.0.55.001).
- On 28 August 2013 Land Account: Queensland, Experimental Estimates, 2013 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.003) was released. Good progress is being made towards a national Land Account and it's likely the next state to be tackled will be South Australia.
- Tourism Region Maps and Correspondence File, Australia, 2013 (cat. no. 9503.0.55.001) was released on 26 August 2013. The ABS and other organisations publish tourism data by Tourism Regions and this product provides maps and a correspondence file for Tourism Regions for each state and the Northern Territory.
- The Perspectives on Regional Australia: Business Owners in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.008) article, released on 20 August 2013, is one of a series of regional perspectives articles which look at different aspects of human capital in regional labour markets. This article focusses on the characteristics of people who own their own unincorporated business, the industries they work in and the income they earn from their business.
- A focus on regional variations in home ownership was released on 30 July 2013 in Perspectives on Regional Australia: Housing Arrangements - Home Ownership in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.010). This article uses data from the Census of Population and Housing to provide a regional perspective on home ownership rates in local government areas across Australia.
- Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 - Non ABS Structures, July 2013 (cat. no. 1270.0.55.003) was released on 23 July 2013. This includes changes since 1 July 2012 to regions which are not defined by the ABS, but which are supported by the ABS. There have been changes in local government areas, the Commonwealth Electoral Divisions and Tourism Regions.
- Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2008 to Jun 2012 (cat. no. 8165.0) containing data sourced from the ABS Business Register was released on 21 May 2013. Two data cubes; employment size ranges and turnover size ranges for the number of businesses by industry division by Statistical Area Level 2 geography were added on 12 July 2013.
- On 28 June 2013 ABS released Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Australia, Mar 2013 (cat. no. 8635.0.55.002) which presents Tourism Region data collected from accommodation businesses. Data by star grade was released for Tourism Regions and Statistical Area Level 2 geographies in each respective state publication (cat. nos. 8635.1.55.001 to 8635.8.55.001).
- Agricultural land usage and land management practices information at the Australian Agricultural

Environments (AAE) regional levels were released in Agricultural Resource Management Practices, Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4630.0) on 28 June 2013.

- Natural Resource Management Region data was released on 28 June in Land Management and Farming in Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4627.0).
- Water Use on Australian Farms, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4618.0) was released on 31 May 2013 and contains estimates on water use on Australian farms for Murray-Darling Basin regions.
- On 27 May 2013 we released an update of the an update of the National Regional Profile (NRP), including 2007 to 2011 data.
- Estimates of the resident population for areas of Australia as at 30 June for 2011 and 2012 were released on 30 April 2013 in Regional Population Growth 2011-12 (cat. no. 3218.0).
- Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2011 (cat. no. 2033.0.55.001) was released on 28 March 2013. This product can be used to rank areas within Australia according to four defined indexes of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. For the first time, you can download files which will display SEIFA data using Google Earth®, making interpretation easier.
- The ABS released Land Account: Victoria, Experimental Estimates, 2012 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.002) on 13 December 2012 and additional information was released in March 2013.
- On 28 November 2012 ABS released Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2009-10 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002), including data for wage and salary earners, followed by time series data for 2005-06 to 2009-10 being released on 18 February 2013.
- ABS released an article explaining population turnover on 21 January 2013 in Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Growth and Turnover in Local Government Areas (LGAs), 2006-2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.007).
- The ABS made two submissions to the "House Standing Committee on Regional Australia: Inquiry into the use of 'fly-in, fly-out' (FIFO) workforce practices in regional Australia". More information is provided in the Other News section of this newsletter.
- The results of an investigation by the ABS into use of a new regional data source were released in Experimental Estimates of Employees by Industry and Workplace Location, Victoria, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 8176.2.55.001).

What's happened more recently?

The Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003) was released on 20 December 2013 and contains time series data for 2005-06 to 2010-11. The estimates have been compiled using aggregated individual income tax data from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Data cubes contain various cross-tabulations of the characteristics of wage and salary earners such as age, sex, occupation and wage and salary income for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2, 3 and 4.

The Microdata: Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, 2006-2011 (cat. no. 2080.0) was issued on 18 December 2013 and contains information about registration, pricing and access to ACLD, as well as details about the data items in the dataset. The ACLD is an exciting new dataset which brings together data from the 2006 Census with data from the 2011 Census to build a picture of changes in society. The Information Paper: Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, Methodology and Quality Assessment, 2006-2011 (cat. no. 2080.5) details the linkage methodology, quality of the linked data and weighting strategy. The Australians' journeys through life: Stories from the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, 2006 - 2011 (cat. no. 2081.0) is a series of articles analysing and demonstrating the ACLD and gives a glimpse of the type and range of information that the ALCD can provide.

Census Sample Files (CSF) for the 2011 Census were released on 12 December 2013 in Microdata: Census of Population and Housing, Census Sample File, 2011 (cat. no. 2037.0.30.001). The available products provide sample records for 1% and 5% of the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. A detailed list of data items is available on the Downloads tab. The CSF is suitable for advanced users of Census data and is available as a charged product.

Motor Vehicle Census data is available for the first time in TableBuilder, details were released on 18 December 2013 in Microdata: Census of Motor Vehicles, Australia, 2013 (cat. no. 9309.0.55.003). A detailed list of data items available at Postcode level is located on the Downloads tab.

A chapter on 'Rural and regional progress' has been included in Measures of Australia's Progress, 2013. This issue, released on 14 November 2013, discusses progress indicators at the sub-state level for each of the MAP themes: society, economy, environment and governance. The 'Data and downloads' page of the MAP product includes spreadsheets containing 'Rural and regional' data and information about every MAP

data item.

Deaths, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3302.0) released on 7 November 2013 presents statistics on deaths and mortality for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2 and 4, and Remoteness Areas.

On 13 September 2013 remoteness areas data was released in Preschool Education, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 4240.0). This release presents selected tables previously released under the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), and re-released under the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

What's coming up?

As normal, you can find out what's coming up in the Regional Statistics Schedule page contained in this newsletter.

We will also be continuing to work on our series of articles which provide "Perspectives on Regional Australia". Be aware that these articles cover the whole of Australia, so they look at city and country regions and future articles will continue to focus on housing arrangements.

The Productivity Commission has commenced a study of Geographic Labour Mobility ([external link](#)). The ABS prepared an initial submission. We expect that ABS data and measurement concepts will be important for this research.

We are also continuing to work on our "Regional Economic Data Directions" (REDD) project, and this was discussed at the June ABS State Statistical Forum, with the work receiving good support from State and Territory representatives. Details of the REDD project were also presented at the 2013 Local Government Researchers' Forum held in Adelaide in June and the 2013 Sustainable Economic Growth For Regional Australia conference held in Coffs Harbour on October.

We will continue to keep you up to date on our plans, releases and appearances with regular updates to this newsletter.

As always, if you have any feedback about this newsletter, or any of the above activities, we would love to hear from you. You can send feedback to regional.statistics@abs.gov.au, or call Gareth Edwards on (08) 8237 7674.

We wish all our readers an enjoyable Christmas, and a safe and happy New Year.

Lisa Conolly
Director
Rural and Regional Statistics National Centre

Regional Statistics Schedule



REGIONAL STATISTICS SCHEDULE

Release schedule (**Updated - Dec 2013**)

Event calendar (**Updated - Oct 2013**)

RELEASE SCHEDULE

Here you will find details about data and analytical articles due to be released by the Rural and Regional Statistics National Centre (RRSNC).

Upcoming Releases

Perspectives on Regional Australia: Housing Arrangements - Renting in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.013) - Due for release in early 2014.

This article looks at the proportion of homes in local government areas that are rented. It shows how the costs of renting a home varies across Australia and how these costs changed between 2006 and 2011. This is the third in a series of three articles which analyse different aspects of housing tenure in local government areas. It follows on from the release of Perspectives on Regional Australia: Housing Arrangements - Home Ownership in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.010) in July 2013 and Perspectives on Regional Australia, Housing Arrangements - Homes Owned with a Mortgage in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.012) in November 2013.

Recent Releases

Perspectives on Regional Australia: Non-school Qualifications in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.011)
Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Housing Arrangements - Homes Owned with a Mortgage in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.012)
Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003)

[Back to top](#)

Historical Releases

Perspectives on Regional Australia

Perspectives on Regional Australia: Women's Employment in Urban, Rural and Regional Australia, 2001 Census, 2001 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.001)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Sources of Income, Experimental Estimates, 2000-01 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.002)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Household Expenditure throughout Australia, 2003-04 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.003)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Turnover, 2006 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.005)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Variations in Wage and Salary Income between Local Government Areas (LGAs), 2003-04 to 2008-09 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.006)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Growth and Turnover in Local Government Areas (LGAs), 2001 to 2006 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.007)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Growth and Turnover in Local Government Areas (LGAs), 2006-2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.007)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Business Owners in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.008)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Comparing Census Night and Usual Resident Populations in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.009)
Perspectives on Regional Australia: Housing Arrangements - Home Ownership in Local Government Areas, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.010)

Regional Research Articles

Regional Research in Australia - the Statistical Dimension: an Information Development Plan for Rural and Regional Statistics, 2005 (cat. no. 1362.0)
Research Paper: Review of Regional Development Committee Regional Plans, 2013 (cat. no. 1381.0)

National Regional Profile

National Regional Profile 2007 to 2011

Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas

Information Paper: Use of Individual Income Tax Data for Regional Statistics, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (cat. no. 5673.0)
Experimental Estimates, Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia - Electronic Delivery, 1995-96 to 1998-99 (cat. no. 5673.0)
Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia - Electronic Publication, 2000-01 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.001)
Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia, 2003-04 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.001)
Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2006-07 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003)
Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2007-08 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003)
Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2008-09 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003)

5673.0.55.003)

Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2009-10 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003) - time series data 2005-06 to 2009-10

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas

Information Paper: Experimental Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Taxation and Income Support Data, 1995-96 to 2000-01 (cat. no. 6524.0)

Experimental Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Taxation and Income Support Data, 1995-96 to 2000-01 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.001)

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, 2001-02 to 2005-06 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002)

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2006-07 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002)

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2007-08 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002)

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2008-09 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002)

Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2009-10 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) - time series data 2005-06 to 2009-10

[Back to top](#)

EVENT CALENDAR

Throughout the year, RRSNC will be leading discussion and presenting analysis at a number of different events. You can find out where we will be and what discussions we will be leading below. Please note that this list will be updated during the year and the ABS do not specifically endorse any individual event.

There are currently no events RRSNC will be attending.

Wage and Salary Earners, Time Series



WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, TIME SERIES

[Introduction](#)

[Summary Statistics, Australia, 2010-11](#)

[Further Information](#)

INTRODUCTION

In 2010-11, a total of 10,039,401 Australians who lodged tax forms reported income from Wages and salaries. For the same year, \$521.3 billion or 80.6% of total income (from all sources) came from Wages and salaries specifically.

While average Wages and salaries income for all Australia (persons) in 2010-11 was \$51,923, males recorded a higher average of \$62,699 compared with \$40,312 for females. In addition, younger people (aged 15-34 years) recorded an average Wages and salaries income of \$40,055, well under the national average (\$51,923). The greater participation in part-time work by females and 15-34 year olds has impacted on these results.

As the economic well-being of most Australians is largely affected by the amount of income they receive, the analysis of geographical variations in Wages and salaries over time can provide valuable information about relative advantage and disadvantage in regions and the nature of regional economies in general. While not directly covered by the information in this publication, wealth is also recognised as an important contributor to economic well-being; some people on low incomes may have property and business assets to draw on, whilst others on high incomes may also have high levels of debt.

Using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), data are provided for a variety of new regions: Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2s); Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3s); Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4s); and Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSAs). Local Government Area (LGA) details are also provided, along with state and territory information.

Wage and salary earner statistics in this issue are primarily presented for the 2010-11 financial year, although some time series information (going back to 2005-06) is available in this summary and the data cubes attached to this publication.

This article illustrates ways that Wages and salaries data can be used to explore regional variations in income. Further analysis of regional incomes can be undertaken using the data contained in the spreadsheets in the Downloads tab of this release. Users are also invited to explore the complementary ABS publication, Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11, (cat. no. 6525.0.55.002), which expands the coverage of income to also include earnings from Investment, Superannuation and annuities, Own unincorporated businesses and other sources. Broader, multifaceted data for small regions can be found in the ABS's National Regional Profile.

The statistics presented here have been compiled using aggregated individual income data for postcodes from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has confidentialised and transformed the source data further, to enable its release for smaller geographic regions. The ABS wishes to acknowledge the ATO for its support in compiling these statistics.

Readers should note that some data for Local Government Areas and earlier years have recently been revised - they may differ from details published previously. A more direct geographical conversion and data randomisation process has been applied, leading to higher quality estimates.

SUMMARY STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA, 2010-11

On average, Australians earned \$51,923 in Wages and salaries income in 2010-11. Table 1 shows the Australian Capital Territory with the highest average of \$60,987, followed by Western Australia (\$57,365) and the Northern Territory (\$54,082). 2010-11 was the first time in recent years that New South Wales missed the 'top three'.

The lowest average Wages and salaries income levels were recorded by Tasmania (\$43,521) and South Australia (\$46,551).

Average Wages and salaries were higher in the Greater Capital City Statistical Areas than the rest of each state or territory. This held for all jurisdictions. The difference was most pronounced in New South Wales, with average Wages and salaries for Greater Sydney (\$57,612) exceeding the Rest of NSW level (\$46,514) by \$11,098 for 2010-11. The gap narrowed for Tasmania with an average Wages and salaries income differential of just \$3,871 between Greater Hobart and Rest of Tasmania.

The largest percentage of Australia's 10 million Wage and salary earners were found in New South Wales (31.3%), Victoria (24.7%), Queensland (20.1%) and Western Australia (10.8%), reflecting the larger populations in those states. Table 1 summarises the key findings for 2010-11.

Table 1. WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 2010-11

Region	Wage and salary earners(a) no.	Wage and salary earners as a percentage of Australian total(a) %	Total Wages and salaries income(a) \$ billion	Wages and salaries income as a percentage of Australian total(a) %	Average annual Wages and salaries income \$
New South Wales	3 146 772	31.3	169.7	32.6	53 917
Greater Sydney	2 099 196	20.9	120.9	23.2	57 612
Rest of NSW	1 047 576	10.4	48.7	9.3	46 514
Victoria	2 482 112	24.7	124.8	23.9	50 276
Greater Melbourne	1 902 715	19.0	99.8	19.1	52 470
Rest of Victoria	579 397	5.8	25.0	4.8	43 072
Queensland	2 018 871	20.1	100.7	19.3	49 863
Greater Brisbane	1 005 982	10.0	52.5	10.1	52 171
Rest of Queensland	1 012 889	10.1	48.2	9.2	47 571
South Australia	711 763	7.1	33.1	6.4	46 551
Greater Adelaide	561 193	5.6	26.9	5.2	47 862
Rest of South Australia	150 570	1.5	6.3	1.2	41 665
Western Australia	1 087 230	10.8	62.4	12.0	57 365
Greater Perth	866 313	8.6	50.4	9.7	58 181
Rest of WA	220 917	2.2	12.0	2.3	54 168
Tasmania	219 536	2.2	9.6	1.8	43 521

Greater Hobart	97 596	1.0	4.5	0.9	45 671
Rest of Tasmania	121 940	1.2	5.1	1.0	41 800
Northern Territory	86 293	0.8	4.7	0.9	54 082
Greater Darwin	61 839	0.6	3.5	0.7	55 788
Rest of NT	24 454	0.2	1.2	0.2	49 768
Australian Capital Territory	192 722	1.9	11.8	2.3	60 987
Australia(b)	10 039 401	100.0	521.3	100.0	51 923

(a) State and territory totals may not exactly match the sum of their components due to rounding.

(b) Totals for Australia include data for Wage and salary earners from the Other Territories and region/s unknown. Hence they do not exactly match the sum of the State/Territory components.

Table 2 presents Wages and salaries income from another perspective - percentage distribution across 5 broad income ranges:

Table 2. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EARNERS, SELECTED WAGES AND SALARIES INCOME RANGES, AUSTRALIA, 2010-11

Region	\$0 to less than \$15 600(a) %	\$15 600 to less than \$31 200 %	\$31 200 to less than \$52 000 %	\$52 000 to less than \$78 000 %	\$78 000 and over %
New South Wales	17.7	17.1	25.0	20.5	19.7
Greater Sydney	16.9	16.3	24.0	21.2	21.7
Rest of NSW	19.3	18.8	27.0	19.0	15.8
Victoria	18.4	17.5	26.2	21.1	16.8
Greater Melbourne	17.6	16.9	25.7	21.7	18.2
Rest of Victoria	21.0	19.6	28.0	19.4	11.9
Queensland	18.1	17.3	26.5	21.0	17.0
Greater Brisbane	17.0	16.2	26.2	22.6	18.0
Rest of Queensland	19.2	18.4	26.9	19.5	16.0
South Australia	18.4	18.0	28.4	21.2	14.0
Greater Adelaide	17.5	17.5	28.4	21.9	14.7
Rest of South Australia	21.8	19.9	28.3	18.7	11.3
Western Australia	17.5	16.3	22.2	20.1	23.9
Greater Perth	17.2	16.0	22.2	20.8	23.8
Rest of WA	19.0	17.3	22.0	17.7	24.0
Tasmania	19.8	18.9	29.3	20.4	11.6
Greater Hobart	18.8	17.7	28.7	21.7	13.1
Rest of Tasmania	20.7	19.9	29.8	19.3	10.3
Northern Territory	14.3	15.0	24.1	25.6	21.1
Greater Darwin	12.8	14.5	23.8	26.8	22.0
Rest of NT	18.0	16.2	24.7	22.4	18.7
Australian Capital Territory	14.4	12.6	19.1	25.3	28.6
Australia(b)	18.1	17.2	25.4	20.9	18.5

(a) Some Wage and salary earners on low incomes are excluded from this category since they are not required to lodge tax forms.

(b) Data for Australia includes details for Wage and salary earners from the Other Territories and region/s unknown.

Tasmania had 19.8% of its Wage and salary earners in the lowest (\$0 to less than \$15,600) income range, more than the corresponding national level of 18.1%. High proportions were also recorded by South Australia and Victoria - both with 18.4%.

At the higher end of the income range, 18.5% of Wage and salary earners in Australia received \$78,000 and over. Of all jurisdictions, the Australian Capital Territory was the highest, with 28.6% of its Wage and salary earners reporting incomes of \$78,000 and over - followed by Western Australia (23.9%) and the Northern Territory (21.1%). The Greater capital city regions tended to have a higher percentage of high income earners with the exception of Western Australia - where 24.0% of Wage and salary earners in the Rest of Western Australia reported incomes of \$78,000 and over, compared with 23.8% for Greater Perth.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional analysis, state and sub-state breakdowns and datacubes, are available in Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003).

Non-school Qualifications in Regions, 2011



NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS IN REGIONS, 2011

[Introduction](#)

[Highlights from this release](#)

[Further information](#)

INTRODUCTION

This article looks at the rate of attainment of highest non-school qualifications among the population aged 20-64 years in regions, using data from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. The educational attainment of the population is a critical part of the skills available in regional labour markets and is an important component of human capital in regions.

The availability of skilled workers is a key regional development issue. There has been growing concern that the anticipated retirement of 'baby boomers' from the workforce could lead to a shortage of skilled workers to meet Australia's labour market needs. The COAG National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development recognises the need for greater skill attainment in the Australian workforce and it has been raised as a particular concern by Regional Development Australia committees in many regions, as highlighted in the ABS Research Paper: A Review of Regional Development Australia Committee Regional Plans, 2013 (cat. no. 1381.0).

Human capital - the knowledge and skills with which people contribute to society and the economy - is considered a key determinant of regional economic development. Human capital can be developed in various ways, including through education and training, by improving one's health and by obtaining new skills at work. In particular, education has been recognised as an increasingly important driver of the growth of human capital (Research Paper: Measuring Human Capital Flows for Australia: A Lifetime Labour Income Approach (cat. no. 1351.0.55.023)).

This article begins by describing non-school educational attainment in Australia and introducing the relationship between educational attainment and age. It then explores regional patterns of non-school educational attainment, including higher education and vocational qualifications. The final section looks at the fields in which people obtained their highest qualification and explores the two most common fields across all regions; management and commerce, and engineering and related technologies.

People aged 20 to 64 years are the focus of this article, as they would be expected to have finished their secondary school education and are within the age group generally considered to be of working age (15 to 64 years). Statistical Areas Level 4 (SA4) are used as the basis for regional analysis as these represent labour market regions. Non-school qualifications as discussed in this article include certificates level III and above, as defined in the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0).

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS RELEASE

Non-school qualifications in Australia

In 2011, one half (49.9%) of Australians aged 20 to 64 years stated that their highest non-school qualification was a certificate III or above. The most common level of highest qualification in Australia was certificates III and IV (17.4%), followed by bachelor degrees (16.6%).

LEVEL OF HIGHEST NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, 20-64 year olds, Australia, 2011

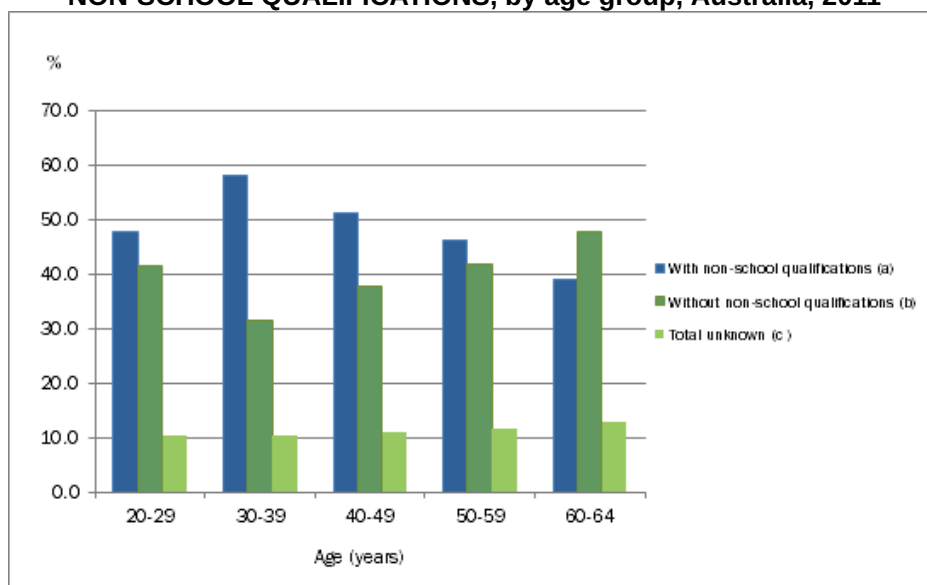
	Persons	%
Postgraduate degree	578 492	4.5

Graduate diploma & graduate certificate	272 966	2.1
Bachelor degree	2 154 562	16.6
Advanced diploma & diploma	1 205 975	9.3
Certificate III & IV	2 247 554	17.4
Total Certificate III & IV or above	6 459 549	49.9
Total persons	12 945 614	100.0

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011

Rates of educational attainment in Australia have varied over time, and people today have greater rates of educational attainment than in the past. In 2011, larger proportions of younger people had a non-school qualification, while the proportion was smaller among those aged between 60 and 64 years. (Those without non-school qualifications includes people who were currently studying for their first qualification at the time of the Census).

NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS, by age group, Australia, 2011



(a) Includes 'postgraduate degree', 'graduate diploma and graduate certificate', 'bachelor degree', 'advanced diploma & diploma' and 'certificate III & IV'.

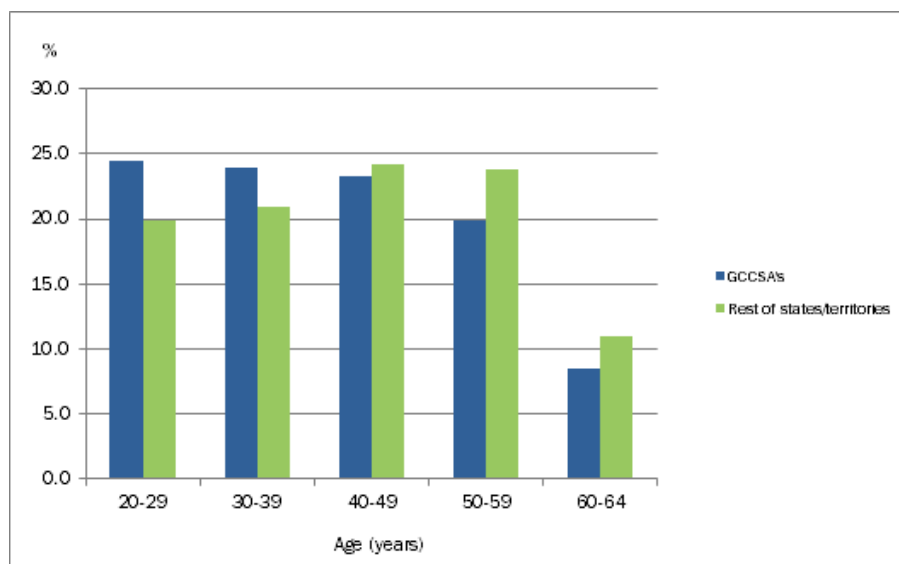
(b) Includes 'certificate I & II' and 'not applicable'.

(c) Includes 'level of education inadequately described', 'level of education not stated' and 'certificate level not further defined'.

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011

It is important to take age into consideration when interpreting rates of educational attainment as some regions have older populations than others. Greater capital cities have larger proportions of younger people than the rest of the states and territories. Comparing the age profiles of all the greater capital cities combined with those of the rest of the states and territories clearly illustrates this. Given the association between age and educational attainment, this indicates that regions in greater capital cities are likely to have higher rates of educational attainment than those in the rest of states and territories.

POPULATION BY AGE, Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) and Rest of States/Territories, Australia, 2011



Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2011

Non-school qualifications in regions

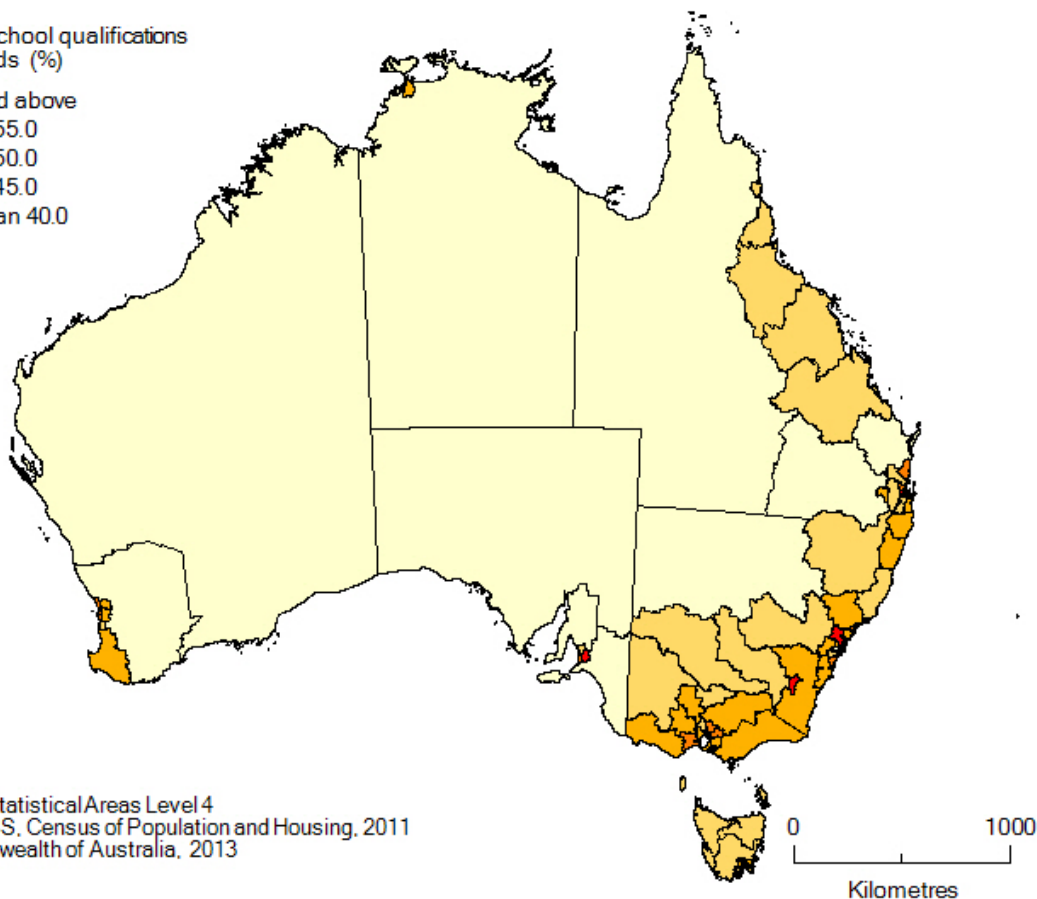
In 2011, the regions with the highest rates of attainment of non-school qualifications were all in or near greater capital cities. Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby (69.3%) had the highest proportion of people with qualifications, followed by Melbourne - Inner East and Perth - Inner (both 64.6%). Of the people with non-school qualifications in these three regions, about one half had a bachelor degree as their highest qualification.

Conversely, the regions with the lowest rates of attainment of non-school qualifications tended to be in rural and remote areas. Of these, Northern Territory - Outback (33.8%) had the lowest rate of attainment of non-school qualifications, followed by Queensland - Outback (34.8%) - both of which contain some of the most remote areas in Australia. The third lowest rate, Sydney - South West (36.7%), was an exception to the general regional pattern of higher rates of attainment in greater capital city areas. A smaller proportion of people aged 20 to 64 years were employed in Sydney - South West (61.2%) compared with Australia as a whole (70.8%). Those with a non-school qualification in Sydney - South West were more likely to be employed (79.4%) than those without non-school qualifications (54.3%).

POPULATION WITH NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS, 20-64 yr olds, Australia, 2011

With non-school qualifications
20-64 yr olds (%)

- 55.0 and above
- 50.0 to 55.0
- 45.0 to 50.0
- 40.0 to 45.0
- Less than 40.0



FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional analysis and a state breakdown can be found in Perspectives on Regional Australia: Non-school Qualifications in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.011).

Business Owners in Regions, 2011



BUSINESS OWNERS IN REGIONS, 2011

Introduction

Highlights from this release

Further information

INTRODUCTION

This article focusses on the group of self-employed people who own unincorporated businesses, the regions they live in, the industries they work in and the income they earn from their businesses. Because there are several sources of regional data about owners of unincorporated businesses, this article is also intended as a guide to the available data and an example of its use. Owners of unincorporated businesses represent a small but distinct category of regional labour markets and understanding this group can provide useful information for regional planners and policy makers who seek to address regional employment and economic issues.

Throughout this article, owners of unincorporated businesses are referred to simply as "business owners." It is important to note that there are also owners of incorporated businesses, who are not analysed in this

article. Legally, owners of incorporated and unincorporated businesses are quite different. Incorporated enterprises have a separate legal identity and are owned by shareholders, who have limited liability for business debts. In contrast, unincorporated businesses are not separate legal entities, so their owners are personally liable for any business debts incurred. Different sources of data are useful for analysing owners of incorporated and unincorporated businesses and links to further information about owners of incorporated businesses are provided at the end of the article.

Starting a business can benefit people by allowing them to create a source of employment that suits their skills and aspirations. For some people, owning a business may represent an opportunity to earn more money, have more independence over their work, or pursue greater opportunities than might otherwise be available. Some people own their own business in addition to working for another organisation, using the income from their own business to supplement their salary or other source of income.

Business owners can benefit regional economies, not just through the outputs they produce and employment opportunities they provide, but also by contributing innovation to the local business community. Research has suggested that workers with higher managerial and entrepreneurial abilities are more likely to choose self-employment, and fostering these abilities can contribute to economic growth by enabling innovative ideas to be brought to the market. Business activity can add to the range of employment opportunities in a region, and has been identified as an important issue by Regional Development Australia Committees in many regions.

This article begins by introducing the two main sources of regional data about business owners: Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) and the Census of Population and Housing. Next, Estimates of Personal Income data are used to examine which regions business owners live in and how much income they earn from their businesses. Finally, Census data are used to describe the average age and sex of business owners in regions across Australia and identify the industries they work in. Two types of regions, Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs) and Statistical Areas level 4 (SA4s), are analysed. GCCSAs show the differences between greater capital cities and the rest of each state or territory. SA4s provide further breakdown of the GCCSAs and represent labour markets or groups of labour markets.

This article is part of a series looking at different aspects of human capital in regional labour markets. Human capital - the knowledge and skills with which people contribute to society and the economy - is considered a key determinant of regional economic development. Human capital can be developed in various ways, including through education and training, by improving one's health and by obtaining new skills at work. Running a business is one way in which people can develop and use their knowledge and skills. Other articles in the series look at the industries people work in and non-school education.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS RELEASE

Across Australia, more than one in every seven (15%) income earners earned some income from an unincorporated business in 2009-10. In some regions, however, including rural regions in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales, business owners made up over a quarter of income earners. On average, people tended to earn much less from an unincorporated business than from all sources of income. Census data indicates that less than half of the people who earned income from an unincorporated business did so as their main job. Of the people who ran an unincorporated business as their main job in 2011, approximately two-thirds (66%) were male and their median age was 47, about 7 years older than the average worker. Business owners who ran their business as a main job tended to work in construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing (especially business owners outside of the greater capital cities), and professional, scientific and technical services (especially those in the greater capital cities).

Business owners

In Australia, there are many different types of unincorporated businesses. Some are run by individuals, while others are owned by groups of people through a partnership or a trust.

In the Australian Status in Employment Classification, used by the ABS, business owners are considered self-employed and can be either own account workers or employers. Business owners who do not hire any employees are considered own account workers and commonly include consultants and tradespeople. Unincorporated businesses which employ staff include many law and accounting firms (which are often run as partnerships), some tradespeople and some primary producers (such as farmers).

Some business owners, such as those who receive income from a partnership or trust, may receive income from their business without being involved in day to day work for the business.

Regional data about business owners

This article analyses two sources of regional data about business owners - the Census of Population and Housing and Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas. There are, however, major differences between the two collections, including differences in definitions and timing, which are important to consider when interpreting the data.

As the table below shows, the number of business owners according to Estimates of Personal Income is over 1 million more than the number provided in the Census. The main reason for the large difference is because the Census only includes people who work as a business owner in their **main job**, while the Estimates of Personal Income figure includes everyone who earned income from an unincorporated business income category in the financial year, according to their income tax assessment. This comparison suggests that there are many people in Australia who earn income from an unincorporated business, but do not work as a business owner in their main job.

BUSINESS OWNERS, Selected Sources

State / Territory	Census 2011(b) no.	Estimates of Personal Income 2009-10(c) no.
New South Wales	270 234	597 753
Victoria	206 856	453 007
Queensland	170 665	380 536
South Australia	69 500	145 766
Western Australia	95 973	203 981
Tasmania	20 690	44 281
Northern Territory	5 800	12 840
Australian Capital Territory	9 200	21 662
Australia(a)	848 981	1 860 729

(a) Australia includes Other Territories.

(b) Applies to persons whose main job in the week before Census was as an owner-manager of an unincorporated business.

(c) Applies to all persons who earned income from an Own Unincorporated Business income category during the financial year, sourced from Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Additional analysis and business ownership information data for all LGAs, are available in Perspectives on Regional Australia: Business Owners in Regions, 2011 (cat. no. 1380.0.55.008).

[Back to top](#)

Building and Other Construction Work in 2011



BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION WORK IN 2011

Introduction

Engineering Construction

How much Engineering Construction was done by local government?

Building Activity

Building Approvals

What can ABS construction statistics reveal about future activity?

Further Information

Introduction

The infrastructure to support population change was one issue highlighted in the Australian Government's 2011 'Sustainable Population Strategy' (<http://www.environment.gov.au/>). This article provides examples of

statistics available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) which describe the level of construction of non-residential buildings and other physical infrastructure.

Non-residential building includes commercial buildings, such as shops and offices, industrial buildings such as factories and warehouses, and other types of non-residential buildings such as schools, aged care facilities and hospitals. Engineering construction includes all fixed infrastructure other than buildings, such as roads, railways, ports, utilities, telecommunications and parks.

ABS statistics provide information on the number and value of buildings approved and the amount of work commenced, done, and yet to be done of buildings and other engineering construction.

All statistics in this article are in original, current price terms. Some of these estimates are based on survey data and contain a degree of sampling error. Some estimates of finer breakdown should be used with caution. Further information is available on the ABS website.

[Back to top](#)

Engineering Construction

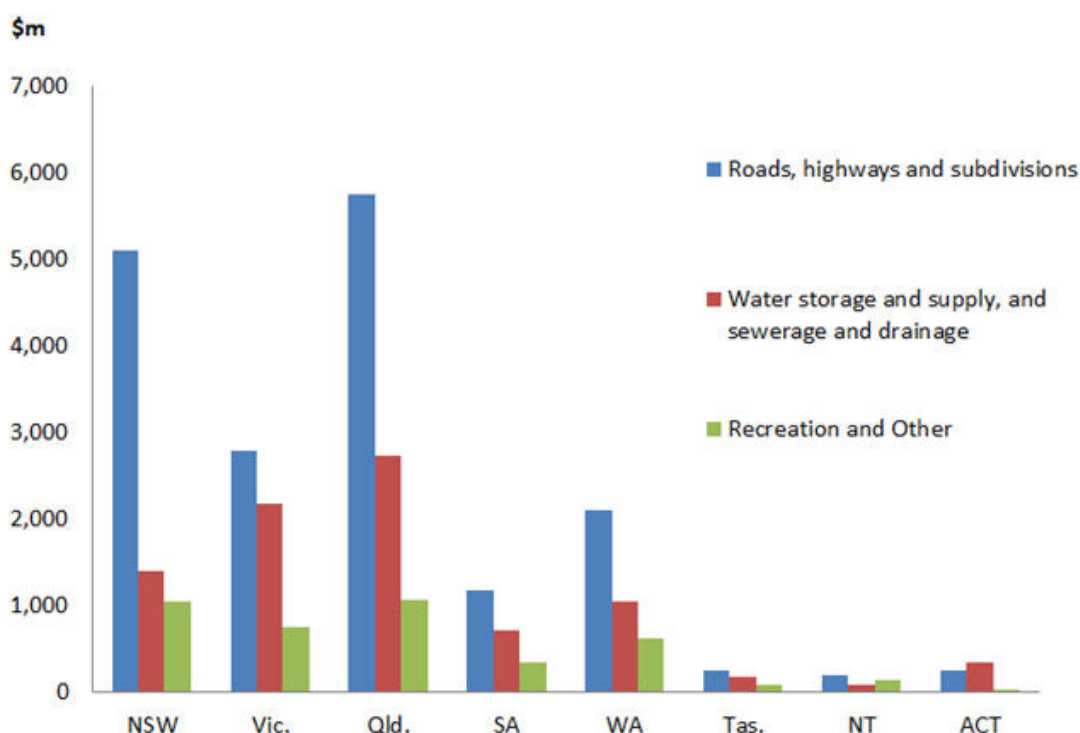
The Engineering Construction Survey covers non-building construction both by public sector and private sector organisations. This includes roads, bridges, railways, dams, water pipelines, and even golf courses and sports playing fields. Organisations in industries likely to undertake engineering construction activity are surveyed to collect information about the type and value of construction projects undertaken.

Statistics from Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, Sep 2012 (cat. no. 8762.0) show that there was \$101,641 million of engineering construction work done in Australia in 2011. The largest value of work done was \$39,800 million on oil, gas, coal and other minerals followed by \$17,655 million on roads, highways and subdivisions. There was also \$11,025 million of work done on electricity generation, transmission and distribution; \$7,409 million of work done on railways; \$5,180 million on water storage and supply; \$4,431 million on telecommunications; \$4,393 million on harbours; \$3,518 million on sewerage and drainage; and \$3,062 million on recreation.

'Roads, highways and subdivisions' includes parking areas, cycle paths, airport runways, pedestrian and vehicle overpasses, traffic lights, roundabouts, road drainage works, street and highway lighting, road surfacing, kerbing and guttering and road tunnels. In the states and territories, the largest value of work done on roads, highways and subdivisions was Queensland with \$5,762 million, followed by New South Wales (\$5,116 million) and Victoria (\$2,786 million).

Graph 1 shows the value of work done in 2011 by state and territory for selected types of engineering construction. (For the states and territories, data for some construction types are presented together).

GRAPH 1. VALUE OF ENGINEERING WORK DONE, 2011



How much Engineering Construction was done by local government?

Of the \$101,641 million of engineering work in Australia in 2011, \$69,498 million was done by the private sector for the private sector, \$16,446 million was done by the private sector for the public sector, and \$15,698 million was done by the public sector.

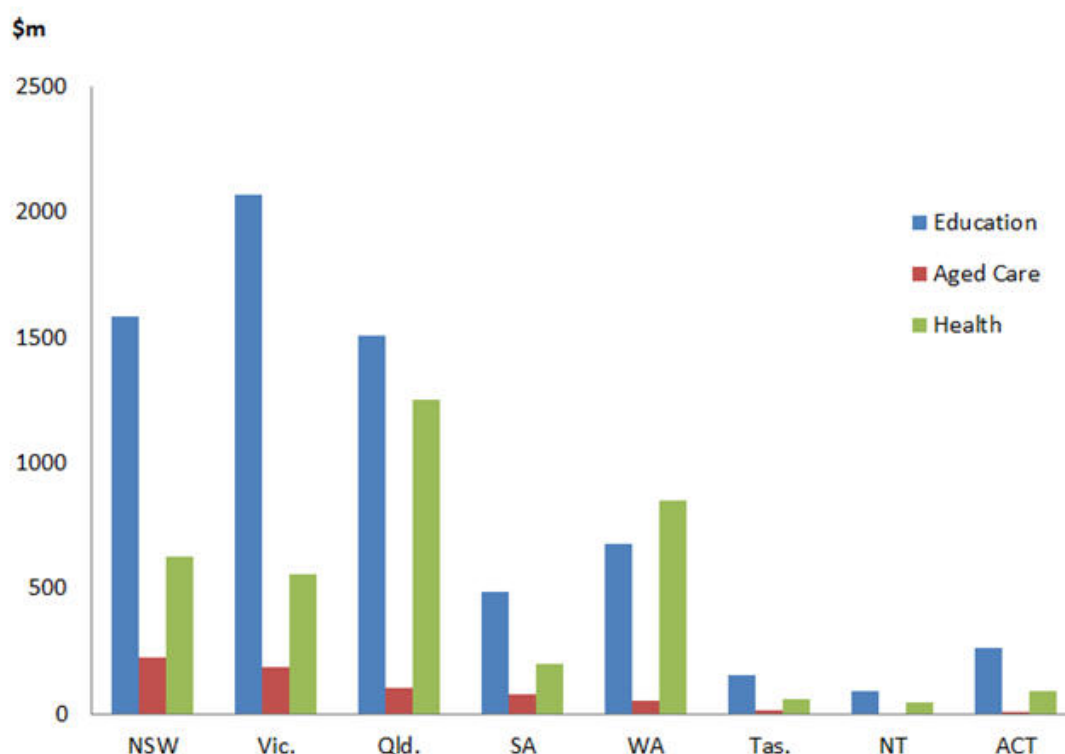
In 2011, \$4,770 million of engineering work was done by local government. In the states and territories, the largest value of work done by local government was in Queensland (\$1,955 million), followed by New South Wales (\$1,419 million) and the Western Australia (\$593 million).

Building Activity

To determine the value of building activity, the ABS surveys a sample of approved building jobs. Builders, owners and other organisations engaged in building activity provide information about the value of building work from commencement to completion.

Statistics from Building Activity, Australia, Sep 2012 (cat. no. 8752.0) show that there was \$80,843 million of work done on buildings in Australia in 2011, of which \$47,744 million was residential and \$33,099 million was non-residential. This included \$6,859 million of work done on education buildings, \$697 million on aged care facilities and \$3,701 million on health buildings. Graph 2 shows the value of work done in each state and territory in 2011 for these building types.

GRAPH 2. VALUE OF BUILDING WORK DONE, 2011



The largest value of work done on education buildings was in Victoria (\$2,073 million). The largest value of work done on aged care building was in New South Wales (\$230 million), and the largest value of work done on health buildings was in Queensland (\$1,255 million).

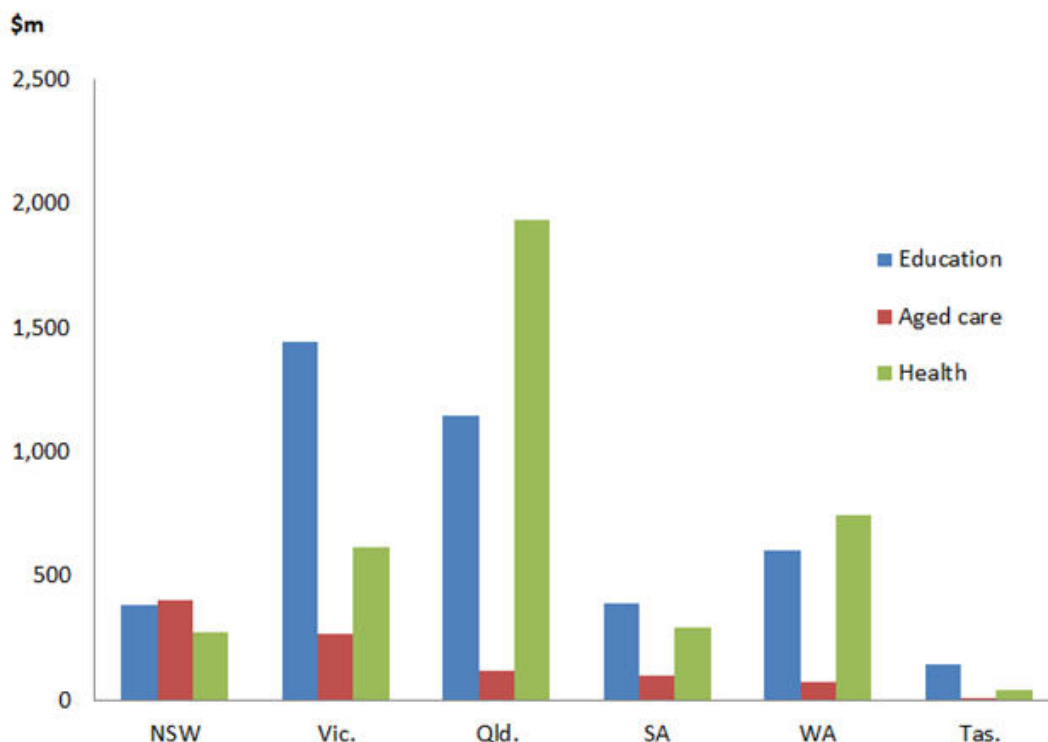
Building Approvals

Statistics about buildings approved are compiled from sources such as permits issued by local government authorities and other principal certifying authorities. These can include residential buildings (houses, flats and so on) and various types of non-residential buildings. Buildings approved generally commence construction in the months after the approval is given.

Statistics from Building Approvals, Australia, January 2013 (cat. no. 8731.0) show that there was \$76,876 million of buildings approved in Australia in 2011, of which \$45,406 million was residential buildings and \$31,469 million was non-residential buildings. The non-residential buildings included \$5,133 million of

education buildings, \$972 million of aged care facilities, and \$4,197 million of health buildings. Graph 3 shows the value of the approvals of these three building types for each state and territory in 2011.

GRAPH 3. VALUE OF BUILDINGS APPROVED, 2011



The highest value of education buildings approved was in Victoria (\$1,442 million); the highest value of aged care buildings was approved in New South Wales (\$405 million); and the highest value of health buildings approved was in Queensland (\$1,932 million).

[Back to top](#)

What can ABS construction statistics reveal about future activity?

Both the Building Activity Survey and the Engineering Construction Survey collect information about the value of construction yet to be done. This includes construction projects that have commenced but are not yet completed.

At the end of December 2011 there was \$40,146 million work yet to be done on building construction, of which \$21,166 million was residential and \$18,980 million was non-residential. There was \$136,949 million of engineering construction work yet to be done in Australia, which included \$11,500 million of work on roads, highways and subdivisions, \$3,633 million on water storage and supply, and \$6,849 million on railways.

Further Information

For inquiries or more information about these and other construction statistics, please contact the National Information Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

2011 Census Mesh Blocks



2011 CENSUS MESH BLOCKS

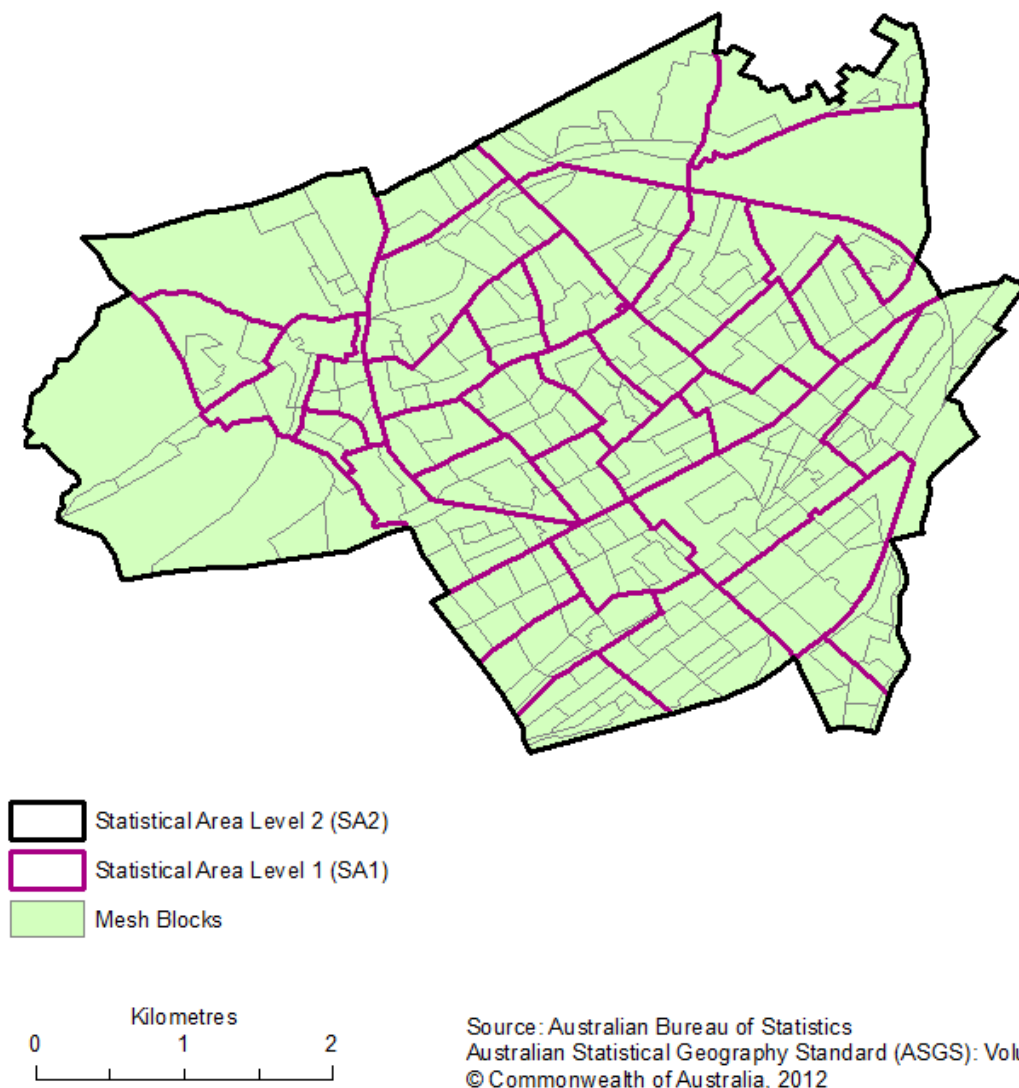
These datasets are available for download from Census of Population and Housing: Mesh Block Counts, 2011 (cat. no. 2074.0) as Excel spreadsheets and CSV files.

Mesh Blocks are the smallest geographic region in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), and the smallest geographical unit for which Census data are available. In 2011, there are 347,627 Mesh Blocks covering the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. They broadly identify land use such as

residential, commercial, agricultural and parks etc. Mesh Blocks are identified with a unique 11 digit code.

Most residential Mesh Blocks contain approximately 30 to 60 dwellings. Mesh Blocks have been designed to be small enough to aggregate accurately to a wide range of spatial units and thus enable a ready comparison of statistics between geographical areas, and large enough to protect against accidental disclosure. Due to the small size of Mesh Blocks, data are confidentialised and are only released for Basic Person Counts and Dwelling Counts. Map 1 shows a comparison of Mesh Block and Statistical Area Level 1 boundaries for the Statistical Area Level 2 of Bendigo.

MAP 1: MESH BLOCK AND STATISTICAL AREA LEVEL 1 BOUNDARIES - Bendigo SA2, 2011



For 2011, Mesh Block counts are available by usual residence for basic person counts and dwelling counts.

- **Persons Usually Resident:** This is the count of people where they usually live, which may or may not be where they were on Census Night. This data is coded from the address supplied to the question "Where does the person usually live?". For more information about usual residence, see Place of Usual Residence in the Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).
- **Dwellings:** A dwelling is a structure which is intended to have people live in it, and which is habitable on Census Night. Some examples of dwellings are houses, motels, flats, caravans, prisons, tents, humpies and houseboats. All occupied dwellings are counted in the Census. Unoccupied private dwellings are also counted with the exception of those in caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates. For more information about dwellings, see Dwelling Type in the Census Dictionary, 2011

(cat. no. 2901.0).

The Mesh Block boundaries are available in MapInfo Interchange and ESRI Shapefile formats and can be downloaded from the 'ABS Geography Publications' chapter of the ABS Statistical Geography web portal.

A detailed discussion of Mesh Blocks and the criteria used in their design can be found in the online publication: Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011 (cat no. 1270.0.55.001),

More information on the ASGS and ABS Statistical Geography can be found by visiting the ABS Statistical Geography web portal.

Understanding ABS Geography



UNDERSTANDING ABS GEOGRAPHY

Introduction

Building Approvals case studies

Case study example

Further information

INTRODUCTION

From July 2011, the ABS began to release data using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). Information about the new geographies can be found in the ABS Statistical Geography web portal.

A summary table of the ABS publications that will be impacted by the transition from the previous Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) to the ASGS can be found on the ASGS Implementation Schedule for ABS Publications page in the ABS Statistical Geography web portal. For each publication the table summarises the geographical level available and output dates for final data on the ASGC and first data using the ASGS. The first ABS data series that was released on the ASGS was Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no 8731.0) in August 2011.

BUILDING APPROVALS CASE STUDIES

In April 2012 an article was released with four case studies of 'New House Building Approvals' data illustrating, with maps, the impact of change in statistical geography from the ASGC to the ASGS.

The four case studies presented in the article are:

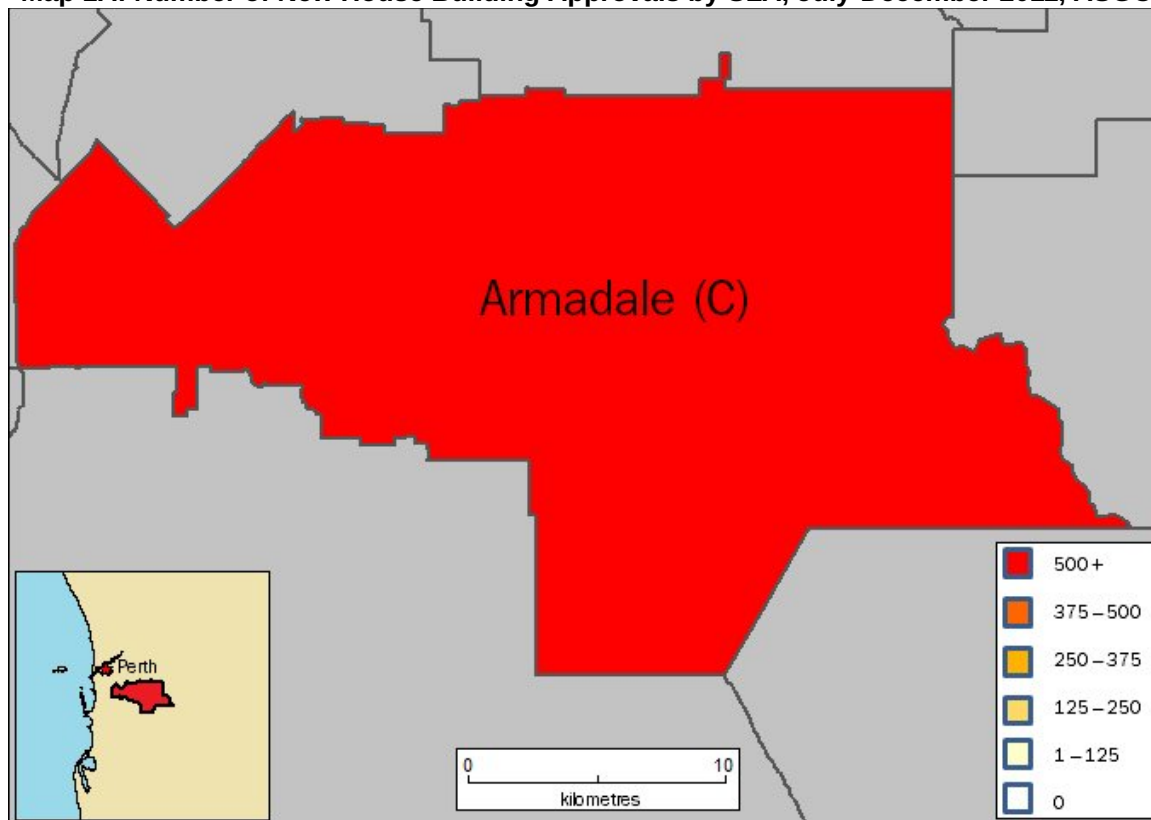
- Case Study #1 shows a former SLA (ASGC) that is now represented by eight SA2s (ASGS), with the result that more regional data is now available.
- Case Study #2 shows where five sparsely 'populated' SLAs are now one SA2.
- Case Study #3 is an example of where a Statistical Subdivision (SSD) covers an apparently similar geographic area to two SA3s. However, as the area covered by the SA3s is slightly different, understanding where the boundaries are is important. Also, in this example, the component SA2s within the SA3s offer more regional data than previously under the ASGC.
- Case Study # 4 shows another example of different boundaries. In this case, the SLA and SA2 have similar names but cover different areas.

[Back to top](#)

CASE STUDY EXAMPLE

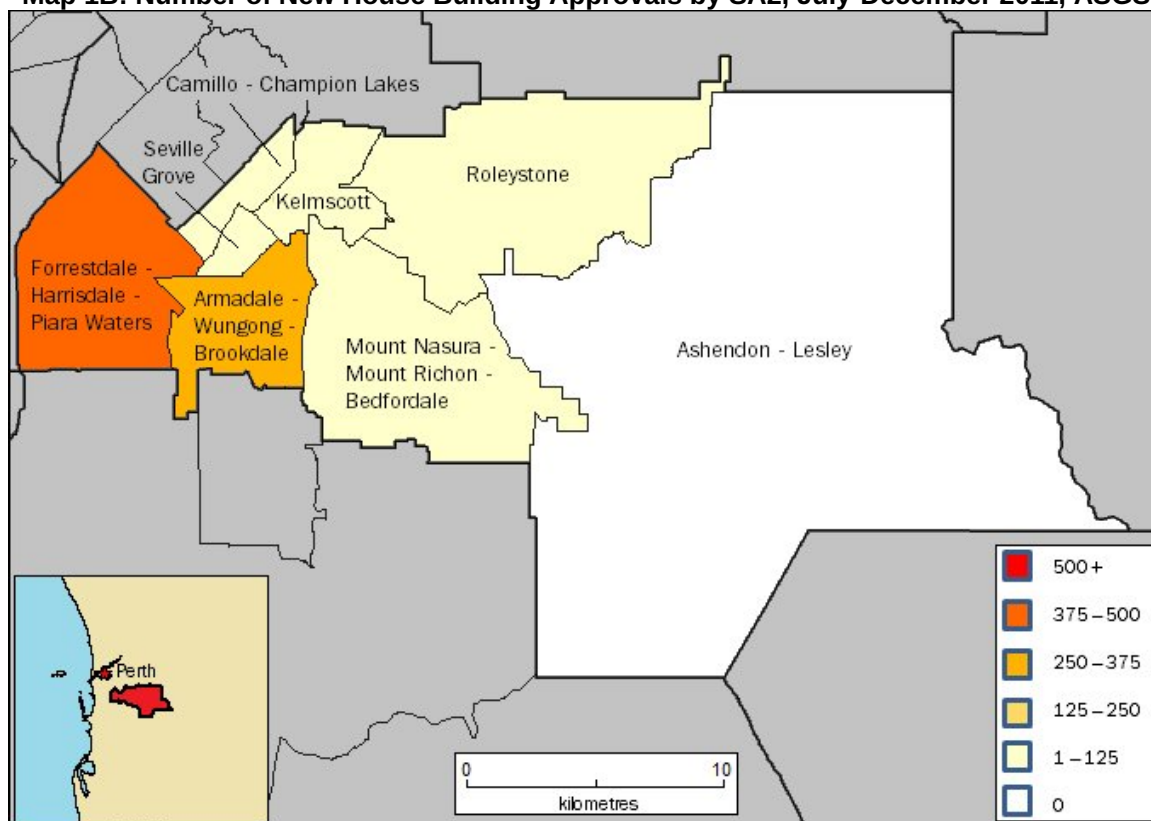
Case study #1 has been reproduced here as an example of the impact of change from the ASGC to the ASGS. This case study includes Map 1A showing the SLA (ASGC) representing the City of Armadale in

Map 1A: Number of New House Building Approvals by SLA, July-December 2011, ASGC



Map 1B shows how this SLA is now represented by the SA3 of Armadale and its eight SA2s under the ASGS, providing a greater level of geographic detail.

Map 1B: Number of New House Building Approvals by SA2, July-December 2011, ASGS



Under the ASGC, the SLA of Armadale (C) had 708 new houses approved from July to December 2011. Under the new ASGS structure, the SA3 of Armadale also has 708 new house building approvals. There were 456 approvals in the SA2 of Forrestdale - Harrisdale - Piara Waters, 128 in Armadale - Wungong - Brookdale, 38 in Kelmscott, 27 in Seville Grove, 26 in Camillo - Champion Lakes, 20 in Mount Nasura - Mount Richon - Bedforddale, 13 in Roleystone and zero in Ashendon - Lesley.

The data used in this case study was as at 12 April 2012 and may have been revised since.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To read the other case studies in the feature article, refer to Exploring the New ABS Geography with Buildings Data.

More information on the ASGS can be found by visiting the ABS Statistical Geography web portal on the ABS website. This includes details about the new ASGS regions referred to in this article, for example, the Statistical Area 2 (SA2) and Statistical Area 3 (SA3) regions.

National Regional Profile Update



NATIONAL REGIONAL PROFILE UPDATE

2014 NRP release (**New - Dec 2013**)

2013 NRP release (**New - May 2013**)

New data (**New - May 2013**)

Easy to find, easy to use (**New - May 2013**)

2014 NRP Release

Planning is already underway for the next NRP, due for release in May/June 2014. The ABS is considering a number of enhancement options including new data items, dynamic data updates, a more user-friendly launching page and more accessible metadata options. If you have any suggestions to improve the product, please contact us at regional.statistics@abs.gov.au with your ideas.

2013 NRP Release

The latest National Regional Profile (NRP) - with updated and new data - was released on 27 May 2013.

This is a great place to start to find data for your region - there are around 3,100 profiles for a variety of region types - from small regions like local government areas and Statistical Area Level 2, to Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, and all the states/territories as well as Australia.

New Data

This NRP update contains nearly 400 data items from the ABS and other sources.

ABS data sources include:

- Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits - **Now back in the NRP**
- Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas
- Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas
- Building Approvals
- Population Census 2011 - **See new data items like travel to work, youth engagement, industry of employment**
- Estimated Resident Population
- Births

- Deaths
- Motor Vehicle Census
- Agricultural Commodities
- Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced
- Water Use on Australian Farms.

Other data sources include:

- Australian Taxation Office
- Department for Families, Housing, Communities and Indigenous Affairs
- Department of Veterans' Affairs - **See new data on Service Pensions and Income Support Supplements**
- Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations
- Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Tertiary Education
- Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics - **NEW SERIES! - Data on Land Use**
- Geoscience Australia - **NEW SERIES! - Data on Dynamic Land Cover.**

Easy to Find, Easy to Use

The NRP can be found from the ABS Home Page (just click on 'National Regional Profile' in the links on the left of the page) or use this URL and bookmark it in your 'Favourites' now www.abs.gov.au/NationalRegionalProfile.

Find your region using the map, list or address search and then data is just one click away.

You can also find all the data for all the regions - see the 'Data for all regions' button above the map.

Suggestions about how to improve the NRP are always welcome. Contact us at regional.statistics@abs.gov.au.

[Back to top](#)

Regional Population Estimates



REGIONAL POPULATION ESTIMATES

Annual Estimated Resident Population data (**Updated - Dec 2013**)

ANNUAL ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION DATA

A new and significant series of sub-state Estimated Resident Population (ERP) was released in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0) on 30 August 2013. This release contains the final set of sub-state estimates from the 2011 Census (referred to as final 'rebased' ERP), and a new 20 year series of sub-state estimates for all regions back to 1991 (referred to as 'recast' ERP). Age-sex breakdowns of these estimates were also released on 30 August 2013 in Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3235.0).

These estimates supersede all previous versions of sub-state estimates produced for the period from 1991 to 2012, and were prepared for all of Australia's official statistical boundary sets, including local government areas.

Complimenting the release of this new and improved series of regional population estimates, the ABS has provided supporting material in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 to explain the changes, including:

- a two-page Fact Sheet summarising the changes to all regional population estimates
- a detailed Feature Article explaining final rebased set of estimates from the 2011 Census
- a detailed Feature Article explaining the one-off new recast series of estimates back to 1991.

The 20 year revisions to sub-state ERP follows from the 20 year revision to national and state/territory ERP, released in Australian Demographic Statistics, Dec 2012 (cat. no. 3101.0) on 20 June 2013.

The next release of sub-state population estimates, including for Local Government Areas, is due for release on 3 April 2014 in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012-13 (cat. no. 3218.0). This release will include estimates as at 30 June 2013.

For further information about the new series or future release of regional population estimates email regional.population@abs.gov.au, or phone Andrew Howe on 08 8237 7370.

Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments



RURAL, AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENTS

National Agricultural statistics review (New - Dec 2013)

Collections (Updated - Sept 2013)

Recent releases (Updated - Oct 2013)

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS REVIEW

Overview

The National Agricultural Statistics Review (NASR) is a joint project between the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).

The NASR was initiated by ABS and ABARES to build upon outcomes of recent internal program reviews by agencies and national statistical work conducted by the ABS, in particular the Essential Statistical Assets for Australia. It will be considering all aspects of the Australian agricultural statistical information system and the system's ability to inform decision making. It seeks to identify opportunities to improve the system and develop a framework for ongoing assessment, coordination and governance of information needs into the future.

Consultation

The consultation associated with the NASR will occur through a variety of mediums across the National Agricultural Statistical Information System. Feedback from individuals and organisations from across government, industry, academia and the community is welcome.

For more information about how to make a submission, refer to the submission guidelines in Discussion Paper: Submission Process for the National Agricultural Statistics Review (cat. no. 7105.0.55.002). Submissions close at 5.00pm on Friday 14 February 2014.

COLLECTIONS

The Rural Environment and Agriculture Statistics Branch (REASB) currently has two annual collections in the field – the Rural Environment and Agricultural Commodities Survey (REACS) and the Agricultural Land and Water Ownership Survey (ALWOS).

The REACS will collect data on broadacre crops, livestock, horticultural products, hay and silage, crop and pasture management, irrigation, and water use and farm management. Whilst the ALWOS collects information on foreign ownership of agricultural businesses, including land and water entitlements for

agricultural use.

A preliminary REACS publication will be released in November, and final publications for both REACS and ALWOS will be released between April and June 2014.

RECENT RELEASES

Australian Agricultural Environments Regions

Information on agricultural land usage and key land management practices undertaken by Australian agricultural businesses at the Australian Agricultural Environments (AAE) regional levels were released in Agricultural Resource Management Practices, Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4630.0) on 28 June 2013. This publication presents estimates from the 2011-12 Land Management Practices Survey (LaMPS).

There are 18 AAE regions across Australia. AAE regions are based on agroecological regions and have been aligned to Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2) boundaries from the ASGS to make output comparable with other ABS data. The main features summary page contains a map of the specific AAE regions used in this publication. Various thematic maps are also presented throughout this publication.

Natural Resource Management Regions and Statistical Area 4 releases

The REASB recently published the final release from the 2011-12 annual cycle – the Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4610.0.55.008) which provides information about the value of production that has benefited from the assistance of irrigation. Data are presented at state and Natural Resource Management (NRM) levels, as well as for the Murray-Darling Basin.

On 25 September 2013, the REASB published a series of releases at Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4). All the publications present estimates from the 2011-12 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). So, if you are seeking information on:

- Agricultural Commodity production at NRM and SA4 levels, then see Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 7121.0).
- Irrigation and other agricultural water use at NRM and SA4 levels, then see Water Use on Australian Farms, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4618.0).
- Value of agricultural production information at NRM and SA4 levels, then see Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 7503.0).
- Land management practices information at NRM levels, then see Land Management and Farming in Australia, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4627.0).

Murray-Darling Basin Regions

Water Use on Australian Farms, 2011-12 (cat. no. 4618.0) was released on 31 May 2013 and contains estimates on water use on Australian farms for Murray-Darling Basin regions. This publication presents estimates of agricultural water use (including pastures and crops irrigated), irrigation water sources and irrigation expenditure. More detailed Murray-Darling information was also released on 25 September 2013.

For further information, please email Peter Scott or phone (03) 6222 5708.

[Back to top](#)

Other News



OTHER NEWS

Time series wage and salary earner statistics for small areas (**New - Dec 2013**)
Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset (ACLD) (**New - Dec 2013**)
Motor Vehicle Census postcode data (**New - Dec 2013**)

Census sample file CURFs released (**New - Dec 2013**)
Country of birth profiles released (**New - Dec 2013**)
Measures of Australia's Progress (MAP) (**New - Dec 2013**)
2012 Deaths data released (**New - Dec 2013**)
Release of 2012 Births data (**New - Oct 2013**)
Submissions report released for 2016 Census (**New - Sept 2013**)
Preschool Education Data - Remoteness Areas (**New - Dec 2013**)
ABS Stats mobile app (**New - Sept 2013**)
Queensland Land Account released (**New - Sept 2013**)
Revised Estimated Resident Population data (**New - Aug 2013**)
Small area Tourist Accommodation data released (**New - Oct 2013**)
Counts of Australian businesses (**New - Jul 2013**)
Australian Community Indicators Network (**Updated - Oct 2013**)
2011 Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) (**Updated - Dec 2013**)
Time series estimates of personal income for small areas (**Updated - Oct 2013**)
ABS.Stat launched (**Updated - Aug 2013**)
Experimental estimates of employment
Fly-in fly-out parliamentary inquiry (**Updated - Mar 2013**)

TIME SERIES WAGE AND SALARY EARNER STATISTICS FOR SMALL AREAS

The Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003) was released on 20 December 2013. The estimates have been compiled using aggregated individual income tax data from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The data cubes contain time series data for 2005-06 to 2010-11 and various cross-tabulations of the characteristics of wage and salary earners such as age, sex, occupation and wage and salary income for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2, 3 and 4.

AUSTRALIAN CENSUS LONGITUDINAL DATASET (ALCD)

The Microdata: Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, 2006-2011 (cat. no. 2080.0), issued on 18 December 2013, contains information about registration, pricing and access to ACLD, as well as details about the data items in the dataset. It's a significant release for the ABS and Australia because a dataset of this depth and breadth has never been available before in Australia. The ACLD is an exciting new dataset which brings together data from the 2006 Census with data from the 2011 Census to build a picture of changes in society. The first issue of the ACLD is based on a sample of about 1 million people from the 2006 Census which has been combined with records from the 2011 Census using data linkage techniques. The dataset will continue to grow with new information added each Census, and sample augmentation to account for births, deaths and migration.

The Information Paper: Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, Methodology and Quality Assessment, 2006-2011 (cat. no. 2080.5) details the linkage methodology, quality of the linked data and weighting strategy.

The Australians' journeys through life: Stories from the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset, 2006 - 2011 (cat. no. 2081.0) is a series of articles analysing and demonstrating the ACLD and gives a glimpse of the type and range of information that the ALCD can provide.

The ABS will be producing articles during 2014 from the ALCD which aim to describe transitions of people between 2006 and 2011. Analysis is expected to include the following broad areas of interest: work, housing, transport, mobility, disability and caring, and educational attainment.

You can view more information from the Census/ALCD page on the ABS website.

MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS POSTCODE DATA

Motor Vehicle Census data is available for the first time in TableBuilder, details were released on 18 December 2013 in Microdata: Census of Motor Vehicles, Australia, 2013 (cat. no. 9309.0.55.003). TableBuilder provides a range of benefits over the previously released data cube products including an increased number of data items, Australia level data available in the one dataset and an increased capacity to cross tabulate.

This product provides data on motor vehicles registered with an Australian state or territory motor vehicle authority for unrestricted use on public roads at the census date (31st January). Data include: State; Postcode; Make/model; Year of Manufacture; Body Type; Number of Seats; Number of Cylinders; Engine Capacity; Fuel Type; Number of Axles; Tare; Gross Vehicle Mass; Gross Combination Mass; and Heavy Vehicle Code.

A detailed list of data items is available on the Downloads tab.

[Back to top](#)

CENSUS SAMPLE FILE CURFs RELEASED

Census Sample Files (CSF) for the 2011 Census were released on 12 December 2013 in Microdata: Census of Population and Housing, Census Sample File, 2011 (cat. no. 2037.0.30.001). The following microdata products are available from the CSF, Basic CURF on CD-ROM, Expanded CURF via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL) and ABS Data Laboratory (ABSDL). These products provide sample records for 1% and 5% of the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. A detailed list of data items is available on the Downloads tab.

The CSF is suitable for advanced users of Census data and is available as a charged product. For up-to-date information about the pricing of CURFs, please refer to the Microdata prices web page. For information on how to access Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) please visit the Microdata entry page or email microdata.access@abs.gov.au.

COUNTRY OF BIRTH PROFILES RELEASED

The Country of Birth Profiles, released on 17 November 2013, provide a comprehensive statistical picture in Excel format for selected Local Government Areas within the Greater Capital City area and Commonwealth Electoral Divisions. They provide characteristics about people from selected countries of birth relating to people, families and dwellings. They cover most topics on the Census form. Areas within in each state are available.

2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, New South Wales, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.1)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Victoria, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.2)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Queensland, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.3)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, South Australia, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.4)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Western Australia, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.5)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Tasmania, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.6)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Northern Territory, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.7)
2011 Census of Population and Housing: Country of Birth Profile, Australian Capital Territory, 2013 (cat. no. 2010.8)

MEASURES OF AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS (MAP)

For the first time, a chapter on 'Rural and regional progress' has been included in [Measures of Australia's Progress, 2013](#). This issue, released on 14 November 2013, discusses progress indicators at the sub-state level for each of the MAP themes: society, economy, environment and governance. The 'Data and downloads' page of the MAP product includes spreadsheets containing 'Rural and regional' data and information about every MAP data item.

The 'Rural and regional progress' chapter aims to educate the user, about the important differences between measuring regional progress and measuring the overall progress of the nation, such as considering the relationships between regions and choosing an appropriate regional scale for analysis.

2012 DEATHS DATA RELEASED

Deaths, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3302.0) released on 7 November 2013 presents statistics on deaths and mortality for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2 and 4, and Remoteness Areas. Information on characteristics of the deceased include place of usual residence, age at death, sex, Indigenous status and country of birth. Information is also provided on infant deaths, life expectancy and death rates.

RELEASE OF 2012 BIRTHS DATA

Data cubes containing birth and fertility statistics for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2 and 4, and Remoteness Areas were released in Births, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3301.0) on 24 October 2013. Fertility rates for 2012 have been calculated using preliminary 30 June 2012 Estimated Resident Population, based on the results of the 2011 Census. Information on characteristics of the child include place of usual residence, sex, Indigenous status, and age, marital status and country of birth of parents.

SUBMISSIONS REPORT RELEASED FOR 2016 CENSUS

The information paper Census of Population and Housing: Submissions Report, 2016 (cat. no. 2007.0.55.001) was released on 26 September 2013. There were 915 submissions received for the 2016 Census. The report summarises the key themes emerging from the public submissions received by the ABS on the proposed content and procedures for the 2016 Census of Population and Housing. It includes a brief overview of the 2016 Census content, public consultation, submission process and privacy disclaimer.

The next steps involve the assessment of topics and final recommendations.

[Back to top](#)

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION DATA - REMOTENESS AREAS

On 13 September 2013 remoteness areas data was released in Preschool Education, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 4240.0). This release presents selected tables previously released under the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), and re-released under the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

ABS STATS MOBILE APP

An ABS Stats mobile app was released into the Apple iTunes App Store on 25 July 2013. It's available for free download on the App Store (<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/abs-stats/id521958758>), or by entering 'ABS Stats' in the search field of the App Store if you are an iOS user.

Since its release, our 'ABS Stats' mobile app has been enhanced with more data and better maps. Just tap the app to learn more about your Commonwealth electorate. We've added electoral boundary maps and 2011 Census data profiles of each Commonwealth electorate's people, families and dwellings. There's data about your postal area, the latest key ABS figures, our population clock and more!

QUEENSLAND LAND ACCOUNT RELEASED

The Land Account is part of a set of integrated environmental-economic accounts currently being developed by the ABS. Land accounting measures the change in the land and its attributes resulting from the impact of human and natural activity. The value of a set of Land Accounts is the ability to measure these attributes by examining stocks at different points in time to support policy around sustainable development and economic management.

The Land Account: Queensland, Experimental Estimates, 2013 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.003), released on 28 August 2013, is the third Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Land Account (see Land Account: Great Barrier Reef Region, Experimental Estimates, 2011 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.001) and Land Account: Victoria, Experimental Estimates, 2012 (cat. no. 4609.0.55.0023)). The Land Account: Queensland, Experimental Estimates, 2013, provides statistics on land to inform decision-making, research and discussion about Queensland. The data is presented in a series of statistical tables for the State of Queensland and associated Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions, as well as in various spatial formats for the 11,043 Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) areas in Queensland.

There were no new statistical collections conducted to provide data for this release. It was compiled from existing data sources from Commonwealth and State Government Agencies.

For more information contact Mark Lound on (02) 6252 6325 or email mark.lound@abs.gov.au.

REVISED ESTMATED RESIDENT POPULATION DATA

Revised Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data for June 2012 were released on 30 August 2013 in Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3218.0). Age-sex breakdowns of these estimates were also released on the same day in Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2012 (cat. no. 3235.0).

These releases included a special, one-off revision to all regional ERP back to 1991. The availability of these revised estimates for the various sub-state geographies, such as SA2s and local government areas, differ depending on the type of estimate (total or age-sex) and past availability. For more information please see the Recasting 20 Years of Australia's Sub-state Population Estimates.

The 20 year revisions to regional ERP follows from the 20 year revision to national and state/territory ERP, released in Australian Demographic Statistics, Dec 2012 (cat. no. 3101.0) on 20 June 2013.

[Back to top](#)

SMALL AREA TOURIST ACCOMMODATION DATA RELEASED

On 26 September 2013 ABS released Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Australia, Jun 2013 (cat. no. 8635.0.55.002) which presents Tourism Region data collected from accommodation businesses in the June quarter 2013 Survey of Tourist Accommodation (STA). Data by star grade was released for Tourism Regions and Statistical Area Level 2 geographies in each state publication (cat. nos. 8635.1.55.001 to 8635.8.55.001).

Tourism Regions are included in the Non-ABS Structure of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard and are defined by the respective state/territory tourism commissions. The data is useful for researchers, policy makers and industry monitors and advisers.

From 1 July 2013 the collection frequency of the STA has changed from quarterly to annual. The June quarter 2013 publication is the final quarterly publication. This data will now be collected and released on a financial year basis commencing with 2013-14. The financial year release will contain four separate quarters of data.

COUNTS OF AUSTRALIAN BUSINESSES

Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2008 to Jun 2012 (cat. no. 8165.0) containing data sourced from the ABS Business Register was released on 21 May 2013. Two data cubes; employment size ranges and turnover size ranges for the number of businesses by industry division by Statistical Area Level 2 geography have been added.

This product presents business counts, including rates of business entries to and exits from the Australian economy, and rates of business survival. Detailed counts are presented by industry, main state and territory, type of legal organisation, institutional sector, employment size ranges and annual turnover size ranges.

Detailed cross-classified tables are expected to be released later this year.

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY INDICATORS NETWORK

On 22 October 2013 the ABS hosted the sixth national video seminar in partnership with the Australian Community Indicators Network (ACIN). This seminar titled, 'Healthy Community Indicators', included three presentations consisting of health related community indicator research projects at the national and local level. A brief summary of the 2013 Community Indicators Consortium Summit (Chicago) outcomes was also presented. More information about the network can be found on the ACIN website. Recordings of previous ACIN seminars held by the network can be accessed from the National Statistical Service website.

2011 SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR AREAS (SEIFA)

The third release of 2011 Census data included the release of the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), which ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage.

SEIFA 2011 contains the same set of four indexes as released for SEIFA 2006:

- The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD)

- The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD)
- The Index of Education and Occupation (IEO)
- The Index of Economic Resources (IER).

Each index is a summary of a different subset of the 2011 Census variables and focuses on a different aspect of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage.

SEIFA 2011 can be used for a wide range of purposes including:

- determining areas that require funding and services
- identifying new business opportunities
- research into the relationship between socio-economic disadvantage and various health and educational outcomes

SEIFA 2011 contains new easy-to-use features and data visualisation tools, including the ability to display data using Google Earth®, which makes interpreting Census data even easier. You can view and download all information free of charge from the Census/SEIFA page of the ABS website.

The SEIFA indexes are widely used measures of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage at the Statistical Area Level 1 level. Constructing socio-economic summary measures for finer units such as households would enable researchers and policy makers in Australia to better differentiate between areas with concentrations of advantage and disadvantage. A household socio-economic index of disadvantage would also enhance analyses by enabling cross-classifications with Census data.

A paper released on 25 November 2013 proposes an experimental household level index as an addition to the current suite of SEIFA products. It would complement the area level rankings by adding more depth to the information given by SEIFA, as well as providing its own valuable insights. Producing a household index would also allow users to make more accurate inferences about smaller units, rather than confounding the characteristics of areas with the people living within them.

This paper builds on previous research at the Australian Bureau of Statistics into socio-economic indexes for individuals and families released in Research Paper: Socio-Economic Indexes for Individuals and Families (Methodology Advisory Committee), Jun 2007 (cat. no. 1352.0.55.086), and the individual diversity within areas of socio-economic status released in Research Paper: Socio-Economic Indexes For Areas: Getting a Handle on Individual Diversity Within Areas, Sep 2011 (cat. no. 1351.0.55.036). The paper uses 2011 Census of Population and Housing data to focus on an exploration into the development and dissemination of a socio-economic index for households. It seeks to address issues raised in these two previous research papers.

Further information is available in Research Paper: Building on SEIFA: Finer Levels of Socio-Economic Summary Measures (Methodology Advisory Committee), Nov 2013.

[Back to top](#)

TIME SERIES ESTIMATES OF PERSONAL INCOME FOR SMALL AREAS

Time series data for 2005-06 to 2010-11 was released on 29 October 2013. The estimates have been compiled using aggregated individual income tax data from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Data are provided on the number of individuals and the amount of income received from wage and salary, own unincorporated business, investment, superannuation and annuities, and other income (excluding government pensions and allowances).

The time series data for local government areas, Statistical Area Levels 2, 3 and 4 have been released in Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas, Time Series, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002).

ABS.STAT LAUNCHED

On 14 December 2012 the ABS launched the **beta** version of the ABS.Stat product on the ABS website and we are seeking your feedback to improve this free online tool. ABS.Stat Beta presents datasets in a searchable, flexible and dynamic way, allowing users to create and export custom tables.

Users are presented with two options:

- a web browser interface where you can view, query and download data; and
- a web services interface described in a machine-processable format using the Statistical Data and Metadata Standard (SDMX) allowing machine-to-machine mechanisms for accessing and sharing ABS data.

Please note that this product is still in the beta stage and as such the datasets available are limited. Selected datasets are loaded as soon as possible after their 11:30am release on the ABS website, however data in ABS.Stat Beta may not necessarily be the most up to date. You are advised to check the ABS website for the latest data. The availability and status of current dataset is included in the ABS.Stat Beta Release Calendar.

A full list of identified issues is available on the ABS.Stat ABS product page via 'ABS.Stat List of Issues'.

We encourage you to use and trial this resource, the future of ABS data availability. Online tutorials have been developed to assist you in retrieving and using the product.

Please email any feedback to abs.stat@abs.gov.au.

EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES OF EMPLOYMENT

The recent release of Experimental Estimates of Employees by Industry and Workplace Location, Victoria, 2005-06 to 2010-11 (cat. no. 8176.2.55.001) represents an investigation by the ABS into the potential for administrative datasets to inform the production of spatially enabled economic statistics at the local level. The experimental estimates in this release were produced predominantly using business data sourced from WorkSafe Victoria. As such, the scope of the estimates are based on the businesses with locations in Victoria that are registered with WorkSafe for the reference periods of 2005-06 to 2010-11. These include:

- workplaces that employ workers and have an annual employer remuneration expense greater than \$7,500, or those which employ trainees or apprentices, registered with WorkSafe Victoria,
- employers approved by WorkSafe Victoria to manage their own worker's compensation (Self-Insurers).

The Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) commissioned the Australian Bureau of Statistics, under the auspices of a Victorian Statistical Priority, to provide the statistical framework necessary to produce workforce location experimental estimates of the number of employed persons by Victorian local government area of workplace, by industry (ANZSIC 2006) for the financial years 2005-06 to 2010-11.

For more information contact James Darragh on (03) 9615 7049 or email james.darragh@abs.gov.au.

[Back to top](#)

FLY-IN FLY-OUT PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

The recent *"House Standing Committee on Regional Australia: Inquiry into the use of 'fly-in, fly-out' (FIFO) workforce practices in regional Australia"* has raised awareness and interest in using regional statistics to better understand the circumstances of the regional communities that host FIFO workers and other areas which are home to those FIFO workers. The Committee's terms of reference include the current and future extent of FIFO work across Australia, the costs and benefits of FIFO work to companies and individuals, the effect of FIFO work practices on "host" and "home" communities, and government initiatives in relation to FIFO work.

Many of the issues faced by regional communities in relation to FIFO are generic regional issues such as planning for population change; economic development, and community wellbeing. Therefore, the FIFO debate reflects common regional policy and planning issues and data needs.

The Inquiry raised a number of interesting issues in terms of the way ABS data can be used to better inform this debate. The ABS prepared two public submissions to the Inquiry, the first explaining our current data and its uses, and the second explaining what could be done to meet some of the data gaps. These submissions can be found on the Australian Parliament House (APH) website under submission 223 and 223.1.

The Inquiry recently released its findings in the report *"Cancer of the bush or salvations for our cities"* which can be found on the House Standing Committee on Regional Australia page of the APH website. The Inquiry findings highlighted a range of unmet information needs, with Recommendation 1 specifically seeking an ABS response in relation to improvements to regional service population data.

Links and Contacts



LINKS AND CONTACTS

Regional @ a Glance web pages ([Updated - Jun 2013](#))
Help for Local Government on the ABS website
Local Government and ABS Newsletter
Need help managing the quality of your statistics?
Betaworks showcases ABS web designers
Newsletter and ABS contact details ([Updated - Oct 2013](#))
How to subscribe to this Newsletter ([Updated - Jun 2013](#))

REGIONAL @ A GLANCE WEB PAGES

The 'Regional @ a Glance' pages are a great place to start if you are looking for data or information about regional statistics. These pages are targeted at users of data for regions below state and territory level. This includes urban, rural, metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas, including local government areas. The entry page provides a number of access points to a variety of information on regional statistics.

The 'Capital Cities' page contains the new (2007-2011) National Regional Profile (NRP) data. The NRP contains a large range of key summary social and economic data for regions including local government areas. The capital cities in each of the eight states and territories are defined under the Australian Statistical Geography Standard as Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSA), e.g. Greater Sydney.

The 'Local Government Areas' page assists users who are looking for data for their local government area. It provides links to data that can be used to answer basic social and economic questions on a local government area. A link to the National Regional Profile is also provided on this page to help you quickly find selected key statistics for your local government area.

For information on how to find products containing regional data on the ABS website see the Regional Data in ABS Products page.

HELP FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON THE ABS WEBSITE

'Services to Local Government' is a series of information pages designed to help you find data for your local government area and inform you how to keep up to date with the latest ABS releases and available training. It also provides information about how ABS uses local government data. You can find the 'Services to Local Government' pages by heading to the ABS Home Page, clicking on 'Services' along the top navigation bar and following the link to 'Local Government'.

[Back to top](#)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ABS NEWSLETTER

If you are interested in reading more about regional statistics, you might like to read the newsletter Local Government and ABS (cat. no. 1376.0). This newsletter has a focus on finding and using data released by the ABS at the local government area (LGA) level. For example, past releases of Local Government and ABS have included feature articles on an analysis of Wage and Salary Incomes Between LGAs and a study of Population Growth and Turnover in LGAs.

This newsletter is also aimed at keeping local government informed of key ABS data and other relevant developments, such as the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS), Population Census updates, and Local Government Finance news.

This annual release is updated during the year with any new information as it becomes available.

NEED HELP MANAGING THE QUALITY OF YOUR STATISTICS?

The ABS has been releasing information on various quality initiatives to the ABS website over the past few years to help clients better manage the quality of their data and to better understand the quality of ABS data. To make it easier for users to find all these quality initiatives (and others) the Statistical Quality Management webpage has been released and brings these resources together into a one-stop-online-shop to help clients find all of these resources. The information includes:

- the ABS Data Quality Framework which provides the standards for assessing and reporting on the quality of statistical information
- the ABS Data Quality Management page which includes some quality initiatives that may assist in managing the risks around your data e.g. quality gates which help you to identify any data problems closer in the process to when they occur
- links to ABS Quality Information Papers produced by ABS staff and
- links to Other Sources of Information Related to quality in the ABS.

[Back to top](#)

BETAWORKS SHOWCASES ABS WEB DESIGNERS

BetaWorks gives ABS web designers a place to showcase their work and gain public insight into our website and its future. It's where ideas grow and the intelligence gained is used to improve your ABS website experience. It provides opportunities for comment on and input to potential innovations for the ABS website. New projects are uploaded regularly, so have a look and let us know what you think.


NEWSLETTER AND ABS CONTACT DETAILS

This newsletter is designed to improve communication between the ABS and users of small area data. New ABS initiatives to assist users will be announced in this newsletter as they evolve.

We appreciate receiving your views and suggestions about this newsletter so that it remains useful and assists you to understand and use ABS statistics. We also welcome suggestions for articles that you feel should be included. Please email your comments and suggestions to regional.statistics@abs.gov.au.

For other enquiries contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or e-mail client.services@abs.gov.au.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to 'What's New in Regional Statistics' and receive email notification of its release, simply click on the email notification icon  at the top of this page on the toolbar to access the Email Notification service, and follow the steps. The catalogue number of this newsletter (1386.0) will automatically be entered into the details.

Alternatively, you can access the Email Notification Service from the link on the ABS Home Page or from the Email Notification icon on any other page of the website where it appears. Simply choose topic '1. General', subtopic '13. Year books and other multi-subject products', select 'Go' and scroll down to '1386.0 - What's New in Regional Statistics'. The service also enables you to find out what you have subscribed to, and cancel or modify your subscription.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, click on the following link [Remove Products From Your Subscription](#), and follow the steps above to select '1386.0 - What's New in Regional Statistics'.

Previous Feature Articles



PREVIOUS FEATURE ARTICLES

2013

Oct 2013	Non-School Qualifications in Regions, 2011
Sept 2013	Business Owners in Regions, 2011
Mar 2013	Building and Other Construction Work in 2011
Jan 2013	2011 Census Mesh Blocks

2012

Sep 2012	Changes to Geography for the Survey of Tourist Accommodation
Jun 2012	Understanding the New ABS Geography

2011

Jun 2011	2011 Census of Population and Housing The New Statistical Geography - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) The Changing Face of Wage and Salary Earners on Melbourne's Outskirts
----------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

2010

Jun 2010	A Faster Way to Find Data for Your Region
----------	-------------------------------------------

2009

Jun 2009	Regional Population Growth Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas
----------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------

2008

Dec 2008	Explore Your Region with the National Regional Profile ABS to Replace Statistical Geography in 2011
Jun 2008	New Series - Own Unincorporated Business Income by Regions

About this Release

'What's New in Regional Statistics' highlights developments in statistics relevant to regions and other information of likely interest to users of small area data. Information will be updated during the year as new information becomes available.

Readers are advised that this is the final release of this product.

History of Changes

This document was added or updated on 02/04/2013.

20/12/2013

- The 'Regional Statistics Matters' page has been updated with the latest information.
- Updated the 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page.
- Added a new feature article - 'Wage and Salary Earners, Time Series'.
- Details have been updated on the 'National Regional Profile Update' page.
- The 'Regional Population Estimates' page has been updated.
- Information on the 'Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments' page has been updated.
- The latest news and regional releases have been added to the 'Other News' page.

30/10/2013

- The 'Regional Statistics Matters' page has been updated with the latest information.
- Updated the 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page.
- Added a new feature article - 'Non-school Qualifications in Regions, 2011'.
- Information on the 'Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments' page has been updated.
- The latest news and regional releases have been added to the 'Other News' page.
- The 'Newsletter and ABS Contact Details' information has been updated on the 'Links and Contacts'

page.

3/10/2013

- Updated the 'Regional Statistics Matters' page with the latest information.
- The releases and events schedule has been updated on the 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page.
- Added a new feature article - 'Business Owners in Regions, 2011'.
- The 'Regional Population Estimates' page has been updated.
- Information on the 'Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments' page has been updated.
- The latest news and regional releases have been added to the 'Other News' page.

31/07/2013

- The 'Regional Statistics Matters' page has been updated with the latest information.
- The release schedule has been updated on the 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page.
- Information on the 'Regional Population Estimates' page has been updated.
- Updated the 'Rural, Agriculture and Environment Developments' page.
- Included the latest regional releases on the 'Other News' page.

03/06/2013

- The 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page has been updated with the latest information.
- Details have been updated on the 'National Regional Profile Update' page.
- Information on the 'Regional Population Estimates' page has been updated.
- Updated the 'Australian Community Indicators Network' article on the 'Other News' page.
- The 'Regional @ a Glance Web Pages' information has been updated on the 'Links and Contacts' page.

02/04/2013

- Added a new feature article - 'Building and Other Construction Work in 2011'.
- The release date for the next 'National Regional Profile' has been updated.
- Updated the 'Fly-in Fly-out' article and other articles on the 'Other News' page.
- The 'Regional Statistics Schedule' page has been updated with the latest information.
- Included details about the Local Government and ABS newsletter.